

Remarks

The above preliminary amendment seeks to confirm the priority claim, insure that an abstract is present in the application for U.S. proceedings, otherwise present claims in formats more consistent with U.S. practice, and remove multiple dependencies in the claims.

Submitted herewith is a Form PCT 304 confirming that the priority certified copy has been submitted to WIPO. In view of this, and the above amendment, Applicants would appreciate formal confirmation that all formalities (e.g. relating to the certified copies) needed to effectuate the priority claim with respect to the U.K. priority applications and the PCT application have now been fulfilled.

With respect to the abstract, Applicants are aware that on occasion the document that the PCT transmits to the U.S. Office omits the abstract as that is separated for publication purposes by the PCT. Applicants note that there was an abstract contained in the enclosed WO 2004/020504 publication. Thus, the U.S. PTO may already have the abstract. If, for whatever reason, there is currently no abstract, the present proposed amendment authorizes the U.S. PTO to include the one specified herewith.

With respect to the claims, the claims have been amended to formats that are more suitable for U.S. prosecution, and in any event multiple dependencies have been removed.

Also enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement submitting the PCT art in a formal way.

No additional fees are believed necessary for the entry of this preliminary amendment (beyond the national stage

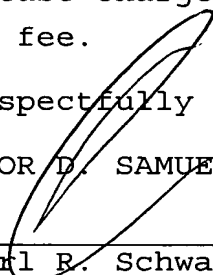
entry fees). However, if any are, please charge Deposit Account 17-0055 for the amount of the fee.

Respectfully submitted,

IFOR D. SAMUEL ET AL.

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